**Course-Embedded Assignment Reflection**

**EDLD 5363-Video Technology and Multimedia**

**Performance Task:**

1. *Create a public service announcement for parents and community partners. Capture and integrate sound, video, and digital images; create RSS feeds; and publish the final product on the web. Use short teacher and student interviews to focus on 21st century technology for engagement and achievement.*

**Reflections on Performance Task:**

**Self-Assessment**

When I saw the title for this course: Multimedia and Video Technology, I was excited about what I would learn from this course and how I could use it with my students. In the Edutopia article, “Teaching Visual Literacy”, Martin Scorsese states, “…if one wants to reach younger people at an earlier age to shape their minds in a critical way, you really need to know how ideas and emotions are expressed visually” (2006, para. 4). Through the making of the group public service announcement, I got some practical hands-on experience with multimedia and video technology and ways that I could incorporate them into my classroom. Because I had very little prior knowledge about video production, this experience was all new, therefore I was not able to draw upon my old knowledge. Learning this much new material in five weeks is almost impossible. I recognize the need to continue to practice my newly acquired skills in order to improve my knowledge and abilities, and to be a more confident educational and technology leader.

**Learn as a Learner**

I drew upon some of my leadership skills in this course, especially through the teamwork involved in making the PSA. I learned how important it is to build on each other’s ideas and not to judge others’ ideas and plans. Building up my partners and making them look good is a valuable point that I have learned that will help me as I assume a leadership role in the future. The approach that I took with this assignment was to recognize that I was not very knowledgeable about this technology, so I needed to ask many questions. Author Andrew Garrison states in his article, “Video Basics and Production Projects for the Classroom” “If you don’t know, ask someone. Life offers special bonus points for asking questions and not pretending knowledge” (1995, para. 20). That is exactly what I did in this assignment. Because this was a group project, I was able to draw upon the skills and expertise of other members of my group to help with some of the more technical aspects of the project. Overall, our group project turned out well because we use the strengths of each member of our group and asked each other many questions along the way.

**Lifelong Learning Skills**

This assignment has taught me that putting myself in the shoes of my students is a valuable tool. There will be assignments and projects that students may face with initial uncertainty and doubt, just like I did in this project. Working together as a team, using the strengths of each member can help one overcome fears of failure and be successful. The speaker, Randy Nelson, in the video titled “Learning and Working in the Collaborative Age: A New Model for the Workplace” states “…the core skill of an innovator is error recovery, not failure avoidance.” He goes on to say that when NASA was looking to hire the first astronauts, they were looking for people who had “seen failure and figured out how to turn it into something” (2008, para. 12). This lesson is an important life lesson and could be applied to anything in life. The challenge in the future is to be willing to face new experiences, new technologies, and new skills without a fear of failure. This project made me want to learn more about multimedia productions and ways to incorporate it into my classroom.

**References**

Cruickshank, D. (2006). Martin Scorsese: Teaching Visual Literacy. *Edutopia.* Retrieved from: <http://www.edutopia.org/martin-scorsese-teaching-visual-literacy>

Garrison, A. (1995, Winter). Video Basics and Production Projects for the Classroom*. Center for Media Literacy.* Retrieved from [http://www.medialit.org/reading\_room/article3.html](http://www.medialit.org/reading_room/article3.html" \t "_blank)

Nelson, R. (2008). Learning and working in the collaborative age: A new model for the workplace. *Edutopia.* Retrieved from http://www.edutopia.org/randy-nelson-school-to-career-video